The new classification of income ceiling will enable Economically Weaker Section/Low Income Group (including minority community) beneficiaries in finding better quality of house. The new classification is in the process of formulating Interest Subsidy Scheme for Economically Weaker Section/Low Income Group category (including minority community).

Educated unemployed

†4645. SHRI KRISHAN LAL BALMIKI: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of the educated unemployed persons in the country, State-wise;

whether there is any proposal to raise the age of educated unemployed persons from 35 years to 40 years to get loan for self-employment;

if so, the details thereof and the decisions taken in this regard;

the interest rates of the nationalized banks for this kind of loans; and

whether there is any proposal to reduce these rates for the welfare of unemployed persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) The State-wise number of educated job seekers registered with the employment exchanges in the country as on 31.12.2005 is given in the Statement. (See below).

(b) and (c) Under the Prime Minister Rozgar Yojana (PMRY), which is a scheme to provide employment to educated unemployed youth by setting up of micro-enterprises, being implemented by Ministry of Agro & Rural Industries, the age related eligibility criteria are:—

(i) 18 to 35 years for all educated unemployed.

(ii) 18 to 40 years for all educated unemployed in North-Eastern States, Himachal Pradesh Jammu & Kashmir and Uttarakhand.

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†Origina) notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(iii) 18 to 45 years for Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe, ex-servicemen, physically disabled and women.

In so far as Ministry of Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation is concerned, it is implementing an employment oriented urban poverty alleviation scheme named Swarna Jayanti Shahari RozgarYojana(SJSRY), since 1.12.1997. The scheme strives to provide gainful employment to the urban poor by assisting them to set up of individual/group micro-enterprises as well as utilising their labour for the construction of socially useful public assets under the wage employment component. Under SJSRY, no age limit has been prescribed for assistance for self employment.

Under both the above Schemes, normal bank rate of interest is charged. The interest rate under Prime Minister Rozgar Yojana shall not exceed the Prime Lending Rate of the banks.

As such there is no proposal to reduce the interest rate.

Statement

State-wise number of educated job seekers registered with the employment exchanges in the country as on 31.12.2005.

(In Thousands)

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	Live Register (P)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1698.7
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	15.4
3.	Assam	1224.0
4	Bihar	1107.8
5.	Chhattisgarh	864.1
6.	Delhi	501.3
7	Goa	86.2
8.	Gujarat	742.3
9	Haryana	883.1

1	2	3
10.	Himachal Pradesh	689.5
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	75.0
12.	Jharkhand	682.8
13.	Karnataka	1026.6
14.	Kerala	3040.9
15.	Madhya Pradesh	1695.0
16.	Maharashtra	2931.3
17	Manipur	342.8
18.	Meghalaya	24.3
19.	Mizoram	20.4
20.	Nagaland	25.8
21.	Orissa	717.5
22.	Punjab	358.4
23.	Rajasthan	615.1
24.	Sikkim* .	
25.	Tamil Nadu	2485.4
26.	Tripura	162.2
27	Uttaranchal	319.4
28.	Uttar Pradesh	1463.9
29.	West Bengal	3911.0
30.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	18.2
31.	Chandigarh	31.2
32.	D&N Haveli	3.3
33.	Daman &Diu	4.5
34.	Lakshadweep	6.3
35.	Pondicherry	180.4
	Total:	27954.1

Note:- Figures may not add up to total due to rounding off.

* No Employment Exchanges is functioning in this State. (P) Provisional.